



Here comes the boom

Spans placed across river to prevent ice flow

8



Early delivery from Santa

Meals on Wheels puts smiles on clients' faces

17



Getting ready for Polar Bear Dip

get it
online
www.forterietimes.com

Sitting with Santa



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Jack Whillier, from Rose Seaton Public School's nursery program, was the first to meet Santa Claus and his elf Brittney when they toured the local school on Wednesday.

Still looking for CAO

Council decides to send hiring firm back into the market

Kris Dubé
Editor

Mayor Doug Martin says he no longer wants to be on the panel that was formed to be a part of the process in recruiting a new chief administrative officer.

A closed session meeting was held on Monday evening to make progress on filling the top staff position at Town Hall, but none was made.

After narrowing down their sights on an out-of-town candidate earlier this year, since then this individual has chosen not to accept the position.

Instead of moving on to the next qualified candidate, council has decided to send the hiring firm they spent \$30,000 on earlier this year, back to work. Martin's frustration comes from his opinion that Ron Tripp, who has in this position since August 2011, is fully capable.

See Page 3



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Local Salvation Army's Christmas kettle goal is \$43,000

Donations have been healthy but they still need to keep coming

Kris Dubé
Editor

The Salvation Army is a busy place this time of year.

Its partnership with the Fort Erie Kinsmen Club for the annual Gift of Love campaign will provide gifts to 265 local families and late this week, volunteers began distributing the hampers to the recipients.

Beyond the Salvation Army's building on Gilmore Road, several

“Everyone can sacrifice a little at the kettles.”

—Family and Children's Services manager Elliott Innes

Christmas Kettle volunteers can be found at various establishments around town.

Family and children's services manager for the Fort Erie Salvation Army, Elliott Innes, says this

year's campaign has been successful, but there is still a massive need in the community.

"We're doing really healthy, but unfortunately the town is unhealthy," he said.

Innes said the kettle campaign is something that anyone can donate to. Larger donations in the hundreds of dollars range are always appreciated, but the small ones mean a lot too.

"Everyone can sacrifice a little at the kettles," said Innes.

The goal for the campaign this season is \$43,000.

To donate online, visit www.salvationarmy.ca

Young trio arrested for break and enter

Niagara Regional Police have arrested three people following a Dec. 8 break and enter on Kraft Rd.

Charged with break,

enter and commit theft are Christopher Archambault, 18, of Fort Erie, and two youths who cannot be named under



the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

All three have been released pending future court dates.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Eddy 'Fast Eddy the Roller Skating Elvis' Evans works the crowd at the LCBO on Wednesday, while attending to one of the many Salvation Army Christmas kettles around Greater Fort Erie.


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Megan Anne Smith
Jan 15th 2012

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The Adult Literacy Council OF GREATER FORT ERIE

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Help promote adult literacy and adult learning partnerships in Greater Fort Erie by leveraging your bookkeeping/accounting skills along with your keen interest in helping the ALC's volunteer-driven organization and Board of Directors provide a much needed service to the community of the Town of Fort Erie.


The position of Treasurer is a volunteer position requiring approximately 10-15 hours of attention per month and attendance at a monthly ALC board meeting (evening).

For more information on the Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie and the invaluable programs and services the organization provides, please visit our website at www.literacyforterie.ca.

Please also feel free to express interest by calling the ALC office at 905-871-6626.

Volunteer Needed

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Racetrack officials still trying to get race dates for 2013

Tony Ricciuto/Ray Spiteri
QMI Agency Niagara

The Fort Erie Race Track will operate until at least March 31, according to Jim Thibert, chief executive officer of the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium.

That's three more months to try to prevent the 115-year-old border oval from becoming just a footnote in history.

The consortium's board voted in June to permanently close the track by the end of the year.

But when reached for comment Monday, Thibert said: "Dec. 31 is always the date of our contract for the past three years, and when the Ontario Lottery (and Gaming) Corporation said they were pulling the slots they indicated that they would pay all the racetracks until March 31," he said.

"We asked them how would this affect our contract in Fort Erie because it's over Dec. 31. They said, 'We are going to treat you the same as everyone else so you will be able to operate until March 31'"

Live racing at the track concluded for the season Oct. 29.

During the next three months, track officials, who issued layoff notices to most of its employees in August, will try to garner much needed support from the Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel, a government appointed group created to help create a sustainable horse racing industry for the future.

"We have filed everything we need to do to be considered for the panel as part of the new industry alliance and we've submitted our financials," said Thibert. "They are into analyzing our past performance and business model now."

In October, the panel — made up of three former Liberal, Conservative and NDP politicians studying the horse racing industry in Ontario — released a report recommending changes to the industry, such as providing it with an unspecified amount of public money.

At the time, Thibert and Fort Erie officials voiced

frustrations with a couple of the panel's suggestions, including slashing thoroughbred race dates at Fort Erie to 30 from 78 and for Ajax Downs to take on Fort Erie's thoroughbred dates should the facility close.

Despite that, track officials hope to convince the panel to include Fort Erie in its future plans. According to Mayor Doug Martin, a track-saving proposal was submitted to the panel Dec.

3.

"What the panel is trying to do is create an industry, there really has been no industry, there's 17 tracks and five different organizations and everybody is independent and yet we are talking about the need to support an industry that sustains 60,000 people," said Thibert.

"If you are going to do that you need to have some consistency, some common

goals to have some type of working collaboration, cooperation ... and that's what the panel said.

"We supported 99.9% of their recommendations. We are looking forward to getting into negotiations with them to operate for many more years."

Track officials also continue to speak with potential investors who have an interest in the property.

"We've got about three

opportunities (come) forward in the last few months, but it's a question of coming to a reasonable price," said Thibert. "Selling the track is not a requirement to race, it would just help because it shows the potential for new investment."

"We just don't want somebody to come up and buy the track and do the same thing. We want somebody to buy the track and spend tens, if not hundreds

of millions of dollars in ancillary development."

Despite the uncertain future of the track, Thibault said the consortium has applied for 76 thoroughbred race dates and five quarter-horse race dates in 2013.

See Page 15

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opinion page

The **Fort Erie Times** www.forterietimes.ca
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our editorial

Check out Surfing Santa this Sunday

Looking for something to do with the family this Sunday morning?

Why not see Fort Erie native John Fulton dress up in a Santa costume and attempt to windsurf along the Niagara River and part of Lake Erie.

In its 28th year, Surfing Santa has become a local tradition, but in recent years, although he does receive quite a bit of media attention, there is never really too many people spectating nearby.

On Sunday morning, in front of the Old Fort on Lakeshore Road, Santa will be flown in by Niagara helicopters before hitting the water for his annual event, which raises

money for homelessness.

It's a great spectacle and the kids will love it.

Fulton will be arriving on scene around 9 a.m. before heading further down the Parkway to surf the Niagara River.

-Kris Dubé



Kris Dubé
Editor's Notebok

I was expecting this week's column would involve some kind of Christmas related theme... something fluffy and

nice.

Instead, I will be sharing my opinion on town council's inability to hire a chief administrative officer.

Why has it been taking so long, over a year and a half?

I'm not really sure, since all of the discussion has taken place in closed session.

My summary of the situation is that it is a competition of egos on council and no longer a process that involves cal-

culating all the data and information needed to make a sound judgment.

Ron Tripp has been in this position since he took over on an interim basis, after Harry Schlange left to take a new job in the Ottawa area.

As far as I know, he hasn't made any glaring mistakes that would be good reason to overlook him for a second time to become the Town's chief administrative officer on a full-time basis.



Do You Remember?

Our thanks to Eleanor Cordner and her daughter Shelley (Enns) Magnus who called in about last week's photo which was taken at Leo's Restaurant in Fort Erie. Shelley Enns was presenting a bouquet of roses to Mrs. F.M. Jeffe at the annual Christmas party for

Pierce and Stevens Canada held in 1970. Eleanor, also a Pierce and Stevens employee, tells us that the event marked the retirement of Mr. F.M. Jeffe who had served as president of the firm for 37 years.

This week's photo shows beautiful children gathered

around a Christmas tree waiting to receive presents. The date on the back is December 1981.

If you know any of the people in the photo or where it was taken, please call the Museum at 894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca.

Council creating a school playground atmosphere

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As far as I know, he hasn't made any glaring mistakes that would be good reason to overlook him for a second time to become the Town's chief administrative officer on a full-time basis.

In my opinion, council has become so divided, more than it ever has been because of this issue and a few others.

I remember being a child on the school playground and there was divide between my entire grade over two girls.

Anyone who had a crush on Lisa gathered and socialized on one side of the swing set and everyone else who liked a girl named Shannon stayed on the other side.

Both groups of young

boys glared at each other and called each other names from either side of the playground.

The current behaviour on council takes me back to that time.

Mayor Doug Martin has become so frustrated with his council's inability to officially select a candidate, that he has decided to take his ball and go home.

It's come to the point that members of council disagree with one another for the sake of being in

opposition to each other's opinions and not because they feel like they are doing the right thing.

This council has made hardly any progress on anything since it was formed in 2010 and I really hope that changes and personal differences can be cast aside.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email to kris.dube@sunmedia.ca.

opinion page

Food bank very appreciate of all the local support

Dear Editor,

Community Outreach Program Erie (COPE) is so thankful to everyone who continues to support our programs.

The primary program of COPE is to provide emergency food for several hundred people each month.

Secondary programs include the distribution of donated small household

items and clothing; making referrals to other agencies; providing brochures and information covering a wide variety of topics.

As always, our services are available to anyone living

within Greater Fort Erie.

Next month, January 2013, will mark COPE's 30th anniversary. We thank everyone who has helped in any way during the past 30 years to ensure that our ser-

“
Your donations during the Christmas season and throughout the entire year are most appreciated.”

the Christmas season, and throughout the entire year are most appreciated. Happily, the penny drive continues strong, and more than \$5,500 has been raised to date through this project. We are thankful for all of the generous food and financial donations to COPE.

Charitable receipts are issued for all financial gifts to COPE.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. We look forward to continuing our work through the coming year.

VICES have been available to our most vulnerable community members, people who don't know where else to turn to.

Your donations during

Barb Voltze
COPE

Wing turbines have too many negative impacts

Dear Editor,

We have all read of the apparent endemic corruption in modern government that wastes our tax dollars with little or no benefit to the tax payer. The Ontario provincial government's E-health and Ornge scandal are just two recent examples, both of which were possibly because of collusion between government and these agencies supposedly responsible for implementing these government policies.

The most recent example of such collusion, only disclosed because the Ministry of the Environment were forced to disclose 26 pages of a 300+ pages confidential report under the Freedom of Information Act, concerns the Green Energy Action Ontario's Industrial Wind Energy Industry.

A growing number of reports from many countries and governments worldwide, not only question the actual long term benefits of wind energy both economically and

environmentally but also recognize there are now too many reports of negative health and economic impacts on individuals and families to continue to ignore the now proven and very real negative effects IWT's cause our rural communities.

The Green Energy Act was written from reports submitted by the Ontario wind energy companies based on their own chosen parameters and ignoring any and all updated information that did not suit them.

Based on the above, and a single quote by Ontario's most senior public health official, the provinces Chief Medical Officer of Health, the provincial government, its Ministers and their staff, in collusion with the Ontario wind energy companies have knowingly and wilfully lied about the harm they have perpetuated against the rural citizens of Ontario.

They continue to permit these Industrial projects to be approved and built based on the fact that they will not harm the commu-

nities they impact. The MoE has maintained the lies by claiming they have only received isolated complaints from those negatively affected. The wind energy companies add to the lie by claiming the few who do complain are merely 'naysayers' and are only complaining of 'annoyance'.

The recent release of papers by the MoE admits that rather than 'isolated complaints' they have received hundreds if not thousands of such complaints dating back to 2006, three years before the Green Energy Act was even implemented, yet it was still imposed by the majority government.

And now, even though the government responsible has lost all credibility for their green energy agenda their ministries condone the lies by continuing to approve projects and even fund the wind energy companies with the tax dollars of the citizens they are knowingly harming.

Even worse, rather than research or questioning this continuing agenda

there appears to be no part of the Ontario media with the courage to directly confront these lies and protect the public good.

Andrew Watts
Wainfleet

Take the Times



Last week, Joe, Sebastian and Danielle brought the Times to Prague, Czech Republic last week. Please send your Take the Times photos to kris.dube@sunmedia.ca.

Best Wishes this holiday season

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

The Niagara River Ice Boom being installed earlier this week

Placement of the 22 spans of the Lake Erie-Niagara River Ice Boom has begun.

Each winter since 1964, the Lake Erie-Niagara River Ice Boom has been installed near the outlet of Lake Erie to facilitate the formation of the ice cover and to reduce the amount of ice entering the Niagara River. As a result of the boom, ice jams in the river and damage to shoreline property has been minimized while water flow for hydro-electric power production has been maintained.

Use of the ice boom is authorized by the International Joint

Commission.

Ownership as well as the cost of operating and maintaining the boom is shared equally by the New York Power Authority and Ontario Power Generation.

Installation, operation and removal of the boom is done by the New York Power Authority and monitored on behalf of the International Joint Commission by its International Niagara Board of Control.

Under the Commission's 1999 Supplementary Order of Approval, placement of the spans may begin when the Lake Erie water temperature at Buffalo reaches four degrees celsius or on Dec. 16, whichever comes first.

The temperature of the water early this week, was 5.6 degrees celsius.

Given the lake's water temperature and that December 16 falls on a Sunday this year, installation of the ice boom started on December 17.

Complete span installation usually takes two to three days under favorable conditions.

The 2.7 kilometre (1.7 mile) long boom is installed at the outlet of Lake Erie, at the entrance to the Niagara River, to strengthen the natural ice arch that forms almost every year. The ice boom has substantially reduced the severity, number and duration of ice runs from Lake Erie into the Niagara River.

The boom extends from the outer breakwater at Buffalo Harbor almost to the Canadian shore at a position about 3.2 kilometres (two miles) upstream from the Peace Bridge. Each of the boom's 22 spans consist of a series of ten or 11 floating steel pontoons anchored to the lake bottom at 122 metre (400 foot) intervals by 6.4 centimetre (2.5 inch) steel cables. Each pontoon is 76 centimetres (30 inches) in diameter and 9 metres (30 feet) long.

Severe storms with westerly winds may overcome the stability of the ice arch and force large masses of ice against the boom. The boom is designed so that when this occurs, it submerges and allows the ice to override it until the pressure is relieved. Once the storm subsides, the boom resurfaces and restrains ice which otherwise would flow down the river. The ice boom does not inhibit the flow of water out of the lake into the Niagara River.

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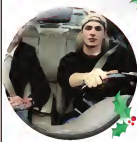
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Vouching for one another



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Nino D'Ambra, middle, with Debbie Barrett and Petti Mills-Roy from the local Canadian Tire have kicked off a new partnership. At all upcoming pasta dinners held at the Italo-Canadian Club, a five dollar voucher to Canadian Tire will be handed out to patrons. In the past, the Italo-Club handed out vouchers to the OLG Slots. Customers must spend \$50 or more for the five dollar coupon to be valid. The pasta dinners are held twice a month. There will be one this Thursday to support Wellspring Niagara and plenty more, starting in January.

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The **Fort Erie Times**

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to all
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Wishing everyone in our community the happiest of holidays. Best wishes for a happy & healthy 2013 from your Fort Erie and Stevensville Tim Hortons Restaurants.

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*Greetings
of the
Season*

As the Christmas season approaches, we recall with pleasure, all the great folks we've had the privilege to know and serve this past year, and wish you all the very merriest holiday season ever!

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and stay with you
throughout the
coming year!

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& Happy
New Year*

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St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School recently held a Christmas food drive in conjunction with the Black Creek-Stevensville Lions Club for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. George. In over a week and a half the school collected over 675 pounds of food. Pictured here are Liz Cuvello, Willie Therrien, Jaiden Skilton, Principal Lorrie MacKenzie, Jacob Shirley and Ian Skingley.

Excited about donating



Students at General Vanier Public School were more than excited to donate a collection of food and toys to the Fort Erie Kinettes last week, that were then taken to the local Salvation Army.

'We are still doing everything,' says Thibert

From Page 5

"That doesn't mean that's what will race if we'll race, it all depends what comes about as the transition panel unfolds ...

in the meantime, we have filed everything we need to do to be considered for the panel."

Thibert acknowledged the whole process can be confusing for people. A lot of that, he said, is because there are several

groups, organizations and government involved.

"Sometimes, people look at the track and think race day is all there is to it. We are still doing everything we can possibly do (to save the track)."

Singing along



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Bertie Public School held an assembly on Friday with students and parents gathering in the gym to perform various carols, skits and performances from students.



Riverside Community Church



Sundays: 9:30 & 11:00am
www.riversidecommunitycc.com
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 6:30pm

First United Church Sherston

5244 Highway #3

Come Join Us

Service at 9:30am

Sunday School During Service

Fellowship Following Service

December 24

Christmas Eve Service - 4 p.m.

Faith Reformed Church

36605 Black Creek Road, Stevensville

Christmas Services

Sunday, December 23rd

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Carol & Lessons Service
6:30 p.m.

Everyone most welcome:

Trinity Lutheran Church

171 Bertie Street, Fort Erie

Monday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

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ONE LIFE

Pastor Dale Shaw's message title this week is:
GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

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Christmas Eve at 7 p.m.

Corner of Central and
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St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church
3718 Netherby Road, Snyder

Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24

5:30 p.m. & Midnight

Tuesday, December 25

10:00 a.m.

New Year's Mass Schedule

Monday, December 31

3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1, 2013

10:00 a.m.

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Bouquet to patient customers

I'd like to send a bouquet to customers at local retail stores who wait patiently during such a busy time of year. A brick to the ones that give cashiers a hard time and a bouquet to all the cashiers and staff who hold it together in such a chaotic situation. Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year to you all!

Bouquet to those who helped

A bouquet of sincere thanks to the three young people who came to my aid when I fell outside of the church in Snyder. I have a large lump on my head and several stitches on my finger. Their care and efficiency is much appreciated. Many thanks also for the kindness shown to me by the doctor and nurses on duty in the local urgent care.

Brick to stubborn new neighbours

This is a brick to the people who just recently moved next door to my mother, who is a cancer patient. She had to attend a doctor's appointment recently when she politely

asked her new neighbour to move their car, they for some reason refused to do so. That's a terrible attitude to display to a person to make a first impression. It's also an awful way to treat someone at Christmas time.

Bouquet to local agencies

I'd like to send a huge bouquet to the local Salvation Army, St. Vincent De Paul and Community Outreach Program Erie for all the hard work and extra hours they put in during the holiday season, helping those who are less fortunate. Families certainly are fortunate to have agencies like these to receive services from... that's for sure.

Brick to young punks

This is a brick to we printed way too often and it's unfortunate. One needs to be thrown in the direction of the wave of young criminals that seems to be forming in Fort Erie. They break into homes and cars, carry concealed weapons and seem to have no regard of what it's like to act like a normal human being who earns money like everyone else... hard work and dedication.

Send your bricks & bouquets to:
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Donation download



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Jen Prisiak and Ed Smith from CSN Niagara Tech Centre, donating \$1,000 worth of food to Mandy Crosby from Community Outreach Program Erie on Friday. The local business would also like to thank Jesse and Kelly's No Frills for selling the food at cost.

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 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH 2:00 – 3:30 PM
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND 1:30 – 3:00 PM
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27TH 2:00 – 3:30 PM
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND 2:00 – 3:30 PM
 THURSDAY, JANUARY 3RD 2:00 – 3:30 PM
 8:00 – 10:00 PM \$2.50/PERSON
 1:00 – 2:30 PM \$1.50/PERSON

THE FORT ERIE TIMES WISHES
ALL THEIR READERS AND
ADVERTISERS
A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Joe Morio and Winston Woehl of the Fort Erie Senior Citizens Club 96 made a donation of \$1,000 to Meals on Wheels, accepted by executive director Nancy Ryan.



Craig and Mathieu Vanderklei accepting a donation from Fort Erie Secondary School staff members and principal Helena Trithew.

High school donates to local cause

Kris Dubé
Editor

Every little bit helps. In the last year, Alivia's Rainbows has raised over \$50,000 for its cause, which supports Niagara families who have to make frequent trips to the pediatric oncology ward at McMaster's Children's Hospital.

Recently, the local charity received a \$616 donation from Fort Erie Secondary School, raised by over 20 male staff members who grew moustaches for 'Movember'.

The group was started by Craig and Chantal Vanderklei, whose daughter Alivia lost a courageous battle with neuroblastoma cancer in March 2010.

Since then, the couple

have carried her name through Alivia's Rainbows. Last February, the community came together and over \$33,000 was raised in one evening.

About \$17,000 has been raised by smaller donations like the one presented by the local high school's staff.

"We're very grateful and

thankful for this support," said Craig Vanderklei.

The charity provides support for families on a case-by-case basis and helps with traveling costs and other expenses that may arise during such a difficult time.

For more information, visit www.aliviasrainbows.com.

Santas provide a fresh visit with Meals on Wheels

Kris Dubé
Editor

For some of Fort Erie Meals on Wheels' clients, the holiday season can be a lonely time of year.

That's why the local agency, since 1999, takes one day a year to make their daily drop-off extra special, with a visit from Santa Claus.

On Monday, leaving from the Gilmore Lodge, where Meals on Wheels prepares its hot dishes, a handful of St. Nicks dressed in full gear, headed out into the community to make several routes in Greater Fort Erie.

they see," she said.

Ryan said the organization is seeing more clients who need services on a temporary or respite basis. Whether it's a minor hip injury or medical condition that has them feeling down for a while, or a senior who lives with their children who are away on vacation.... there are many reasons Meals on Wheels can help.

"It's whatever the need is," she said.

Ryan said the agency is always in need of volunteers. When she started as executive director in 1999, there were 225 volunteers and today they only have

155.

She feels this is caused by people being highly selective when they decide who they want to donate time to and that many long-standing volunteers are getting older, some of them transitioning into clients of the organization.

Therefore, fresh faces are needed.

"It's hard to get younger volunteers to replace that pool," she said.

On Monday, the Fort Erie Senior Citizens Club 96 stopped by to make a \$1,000 donation.

For more information, contact Meals on Wheels at (905) 871-9366.

It's great to see their smiles. For many of our clients, we're the only people they see."

— Nancy Ryan

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Nelly Weaver and Laura Baptiste at last year's Polar Bear Dip and Chili Cook-off at the Bertie Boat Club.



Sometimes the best presents don't come in a box.

Your local Tim Hortons invites you to a Free Holiday Skate. It's our way of saying thank you and happy holidays. All the best for a safe, happy and healthy 2013 from your local Tim Hortons in Port Colborne, Crystal Beach, Stevensville and Fort Erie.



Polar Bears get ready for annual dip

Melissa Mangelsen
Fort Erie Times

Polar Bears are getting ready to take their annual Polar Bear Dip, Jan. 5 from 11 to 3. Each year about 50 people brave the icy waters for bragging rights.

Organizer Phil Smith said that this would be the year for first-timers to come down and give it a go.

"It's going to be pretty balmy for this time of year. It's supposed to be really mild, so this would be the best time for your first dip," he said.

The event, which is put on by the Crystal Beach BIA and the Bertie Boat Club, also has a chili contest, which is open to everyone, not just restaurant owners.

"The Ridgeway Legion will be back this year again defending their title from last year. We get a lot of participation in this, people want to be Fort Erie's chili

king or queen," he said.

In addition to the 50 people who took the plunge last year, he said about 200 people came out to watch and it's a great family event. Those who attend are encouraged to bring a non-perishable donation for donation to COPE and the Food Bank at Crystal Beach.

For those brave enough to enter the waters three times they will receive a certificate that can be displayed on their walls for bragging rights.

The event is put on annually to show that there are things happening in Crystal Beach all year round.

"Our goal is to highlight the community, and not only provide events for the locals, but to also draw outside people in as well," said Smith.

For people interested in entering the chili contest contact Goran Majkovic at 905-687-2498.

Have you HEARD?
by Elaine Wilton, M.G.D.S.
Registered by CAS/PO
Doctor in Audiology, Audiologist

FEELING LEFT OUT?
No one likes to be excluded from a conversation yet, many people with hearing problems actually make the choice to be left out by choosing not to use a hearing instrument. Only about one in five people with hearing loss who could benefit from wearing a hearing instrument actually wear one. Older people with impaired hearing often say that they do not want to wear a hearing instrument because it will make them look old. The simple answer to that question is that constantly asking conversation partners to speak or to repeat themselves draws more attention to age-related hearing loss (presbycusis) than wearing a barely noticeable "in-the-ear" hearing instrument. So, get in on the conversation!

You may feel like your hearing is fine, but you cannot understand what people are saying to you. This is typically a sign of one of the most common types of hearing loss called high-frequency hearing loss. This hearing loss only affects the upper ranges, so you can hear some sounds fine, but not others. These sounds give meaning to words, so you may feel like sounds are loud enough, but not clear enough. To schedule a hearing exam today, please call **HEARAGAIN BALANCE & HEARING CLINICS** at 905-671-6242. Our office is located at 4800 Gerrard Rd., Unit 12, and we are open Mon.-Thurs.-Sun. Most major insurance accepted. Please visit our website at www.hearagainclinics.com

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Challenge pays off



One hundred dollars of fresh food and other groceries were dropped off this past Tuesday, after a community challenge made by local fitness expert Rebecca Parton. Another \$100 will be dropped off this week. Many people did take advantage of her half price training-health consults and there is still time to do so, until the end of the month. The purchased sessions can be used in the New year. Although she chooses to do this challenge during the holiday season, we need to remember that COPE needs our support year round, she said. Parton of Rebecca Gets U Fit would like to thank everyone in Fort Erie for the support of this December challenge.

Gathering the goods



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

On Friday, members of the Ridgeway-Crystal Beach Kinsmen Club, Canadian Recruitment Centre, Rich Products and the Fort Erie Kinetics gathered to load up enough food to feed 50 families at Christmas, from No Frills. This is part of the Ridgeway-Crystal Beach Kinsmen's Gift of Christmas campaign, that also collected a number of toys to be put under the tree for needy children in Greater Fort Erie.

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Lost and Found



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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE ESTATE OF LEONA ANN MELANCON, also known as LEONA BEATRICE MELANCON

All persons having claims against the Estate of LEONA ANN MELANCON, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 24th day of October, 2012, are notified to send particulars to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of January, 2013, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim the undersigned shall not then have notice.

Dated this 14th day of December, 2012.
Carol Palmer and Amy Thomson, Estate Trustees by their solicitors:
Jones, Robertson & Reinking
260 King Road
Richmond, Ontario
L4E 1N2
Telephone 905-894-0220
Fax 905-894-0336

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The Fort Erie Times
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Route: 4006 - Crystal Beach - 40 papers (Smalls, Hazelwood, Glensprings, Cherry Hill)

Route: 4006S - Crystal Beach - 37 papers (Rebstock, Lakewood, Smalls, Westwood)

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All claims against the Estate of DAVID KWELEY WHORRAL, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about the 17th day of November, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before February 8th, 2013, thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said Estate, having regard only to the claims then filed.

DATED at Fort Erie, this 8th day of December, 2012

Gregory David Whorral, Estate Trustee of the Estate of David Kweley Whorral by his solicitor,
GERALD F. RUCH
43 Jarvis Street, P.O. Box 8,
FORT ERIE, Ontario
L2A 5M6

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Happy Anniversary
Barrie & Maggie Golding



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Cathy Deenahower and Family



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Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Birthdays



Happy Special Birthday to the most Wonderful Son, Brother and Friend
Josh
Love you tons.
Mom, Steve and your extended Family



IT'S BIRTHDAY TIME!

Special Occasions

Special Occasions

Birthdays

Birthdays



Happy 5th Birthday
Brady Maracle

We all love you very much.
Dad, Sarah, Layton, Abbi, Blair,
Aunt Michele, Paul, Elyssa
and Grandmas and Grandpa Maracle

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 Fax: 1-866-757-0227
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Marking your milestones.

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Cards of Thanks

ROWDAY, Anthony E. (Tony) - Margaret and the families of the late Tony Rowday wish to convey our sincere gratitude and appreciation to our family, friends and neighbours for the outpouring of love and support and kindness in the loss of our dear Husband and Father. We are so grateful for the beautiful floral tributes, messages of condolence, telephone calls, gifts of food and personal visits which made life so much more bearable in this time of sorrow. Special thanks to Dr. Cha for her wonderful care of Tony, and to Pat Eberly for her tender treatment. We wish to thank personally all of Tony's wonderful PSWs who bestowed upon him the love and dignity he so richly deserved. Krista, Tammy, Marlene, Lillian, Tanya, Catherine, Louise and Ann Marie (Apologies if I missed anyone). Thanks to the Palliative care nurses from the VON and St. Elizabeth who cared for him until his death. Thanks to Rev. Dan Bennett for conducting such a wonderful service, to Sarah for her beautiful music, Peggy Heckman for her singing and George Fairview for his Eulogy and humour. Carolyn Kett and Rick Dorrington for their thoughtful readings, Jim Mac for his wonderful Bagpipe rendering. A special thank you to the Pall Bearers, Ed Smith, Anton Drepan, Roy Browning, Troy Rowday, George Fairview and Nick Rowday. The service was beautifully done by Bridgewater Country Club, thank you Rocco, and finally a huge thank you to Darren Flagg of Bennett Funeral Services for the wonderful way he handled all the details leaving nothing to chance.

Sincerely,
 Margaret Rowday, Sue and Roy Browning, Troy Rowday, Nick and Brandy Rowday

Obituaries

LYNCH, Martha - Martha passed away unexpectedly at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on Sunday, December 16th, 2012 at the age of 73. Proud mother of Martha McKee (James Burnett), Mary Ann (Anthony Shewchuk), Margaret Lynch, Valerie Clavette (Marc) and Marilyn Blais (Mike). Sadly missed by her grandchildren, Robert, Melinda, Amber, Christopher, Shawn, Bryan, Bailey, Sydney, Brandon, Kimbra, Bethany, Nicholas, Mitchell and Nathan as well as 7 great grandchildren. Also survived by William Lynch, her brothers and sisters, her extended family and many friends. Predeceased by her sons William and Kenneth and her great grandson Hunter. A long time member of Bethel Pentecostal Assembly Martha will be remembered as a loving and giving person who died on Wednesday, December 19th, 2012 at 6:30. Funeral Services will be held at the Bethel Pentecostal Assembly on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock. Interment to follow. If so desired, donations to McMaster Children's Hospital would be appreciated by the

Obituaries

COUTURE, Roger - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Roger Couture at the Douglas Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family, on December 14, 2012 at the age of 80. Beloved husband of 54 years to Aida Couture; cherished father of Ginette (Carol), Michel, Alain, and Stephan (Kathy); loving grandpa of Michel, Jacob, Mason, Emily and Morgan; dear brother of Jeannine and Raymond (Claudette), predeceased by his sister Jacqueline. Roger will be missed by his extended family and friends. The family expresses its appreciation to Dr. Claudius Che, Dr. Michael Levesque and to the nurses and staff of the Douglas Memorial Hospital for their exemplary and compassionate care. In keeping with Roger's wishes, private interment services will take place in the presence of his immediate family. In memory of Roger, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Obituaries



HARRINGTON, Anita - Peacefully surrounded by her family at the Greater Niagara General Hospital, Niagara Falls on Tuesday, December 18th, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Richard Harrington. Loving mother of the late David, Patricia (Pat Gardner) and Sharon Harrington. Loved grandma of Richard and Thomas and great-grandma of Nicholas, Kaelin and Aureus. Survived by her brothers-in-law Ted Porter, Jim (Barbara), Bill and Bob Harrington and sisters-in-law Barbara and Joy Harrington. Predeceased by her siblings, Aurel (Dorothy) Rucanan and Pearl Porter. Also survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins. The family will receive their friends and relatives at the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, 21 Wintemute Street, Fort Erie on Friday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Vigil prayers will be offered at the funeral home at 3:30 p.m. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Fort Erie on Saturday, December 22nd at 11:00 a.m. Donations to a local food bank if so desired. On-line condolences at www.hammond-davidsonfuneralhome.com



Obituaries

HAVILL, Marjorie Eileen (nee Gifford), Marjorie Eileen Havill (nee Gifford) passed away on December 16 in her 90th year. She was surrounded by her loving children, Linda (Ed), Lee, Stephen (Becky), Daryl (Joanne) and Dawn (Russell). She is survived by her sister Alice Westcott, her cousin Buddy Kenny, 11 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her daughter Susan McInn, her sister Lois Keirin and her grandson Christopher Edwards. Marjorie was extremely proud to be a veteran of the Royal Canadian Air Force, Women's Division and a member of the Ridgeway Legion for 65 years. She retired from Fleet Industries and was a volunteer for the Spirit of Fleet both during and after her many years of employment. Marge was an avid card player at both the Fort Erie Lions Senior Centre and Fort Erie Legion. At her request, cremation has taken place and the family would like to invite you to join them at the Ridgeway Legion on Saturday, December 22 for an informal gathering from 2 to 4 pm. In lieu of flowers donations to the Ridgeway Legion Branch #230 would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905-894-0120.

HOLT, Lorraine - February 17, 1928 to Thursday December 13, 2012. At her home on Thursday December 13, 2012. Lorraine Holt, beloved wife of the late James (2010), dear mother of Debbie Holt-Fries (Jim) of Vancouver, B.C., Karen (Bob Dyer) of Ridgeway, Gary (Mary DiFrancesco) St. Catharines, loving grandfather of Dr. Jason James Holt (Beth), James Garry Holt, Shauntel DiFrancesco, James Garry Holt. At Lorraine's request cremation has taken place and a Celebration of her life has been held. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905-894-0120

Obituaries

COMBE, Edna (Emma Muholland Teal) - June 6, 1914 - December 16, 2012 - It is with great sadness that the family announce the passing of a wonderful and cherished mother and grandmother. Left to mourn is her daughter Marilyn Bennett and her grandchildren Kirsten Bennett and Jay Bennett. Predeceased by her husband John Combe and her son in law Lessee Bennett. A nurse for many years at Sunnyside Haven, she is remembered as an empathetic, compassionate and caring person by those that were fortunate enough to know her. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with private family arrangements. If so desired, donations to the Legpro Mission International www.legpromission.org would be appreciated by the family.

MAY, Doris Lily (nee Woodward) At Douglas Memorial Hospital on Monday, December 10, 2012, Doris, beloved wife of Eric Sidney. A talented and artistic homemaker, Doris leaves her legacy in the Linda Bulker (Ken) of Alabama, Steve (Cathy) of Fort Erie, Beth Donahue (Larry) of Alberta, dear sister of the late Audrey Rose Fawn (Harry), Grantley Thomas (Jean) of Port Perry, ON), dearest grandmother of 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren who all have their own special memories of mom & grandma. Lifetime residents of Fort Erie, they have spent the last 2 years residing in Garrison Place. Doris was the eldest daughter of late Grantley Thomas Woodward and Lily May Hartland. Services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to an organization of one's choice would be appreciated by the family.

A special thanks to Dr. C. Che, nurses from Douglas Memorial Hospital and the staff of Garrison Place. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** (905) 894-0120

Special In Memoriams
O'Brien
 In loving memory of our parents James - November 20, 1927 and Gladys - December 12, 1987 These were our roots, our family. For always they will be. Loved, remembered, treasured. Always in our memory. Sons Jim, Bill, Daughter Anne Marie & Family

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Obituaries

Obituaries

TUOMALA, Lole - Peacefully at Gilmore Lodge, Fort Erie on Thursday, December 20th, 2012 in her 88th year. Beloved wife of the late Elmo Tuomala. (2011). Loving mother of Jim, John and the late Judy Tuomala. Loved grandma of Michael Kowczyk. Dear aunt of Gladys (Wayne) Heckman, great-aunt of Kristine Heckman Kathy (David) Maitland and great-grand-aunt of Jessica and Billy. Private family funeral services. Arrangements entrusted to the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, Fort Erie, Ontario. On line condolences at www.hammond-davidsonfuneralhome.com

WUJEK, Richard - Dick Wujek, beloved husband of Mildred passed away after his long and courageous struggle at the Douglas Memorial Hospital on Saturday December 15th, 2012. Proud father of Debbie Wujek and Lori Wujek. Cherished grandfather of Des (Michelle) Wujek. Sadly missed by his sister Pat (Tony) Lopez, mother by law Cecilia Roma, brother in law Jack (Carol) Roma, and sister in law Dawn (Ron) Davis, his many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Dick was an active community member, a proud member of the Steelesville Volunteer Fire Department and recently serving as the President of the Black Creek Community Association. Benner Funeral Services, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends from Tuesday from 2-4 & 6-9. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Snyder on Wednesday morning at 11:30. Interment to follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery

In Memoriams

In Memoriams



In Memoriam
Happy 40th Birthday
Christopher Gibbons
Nephew Ethan (age 10) said to his Nana, "I know why God wanted Uncle Chris to die on Christmas Eve. He wanted him to celebrate his birthday on Christmas Day in another place - in HEAVEN. Always remembered and loved.
Your Mom,
Mark and Tina, Ethan and Alexa

MARTIN, Stephen - In memory of our dear son, Stephen, who passed away December 23, 2000.

Those we love we never lose
For always they will be
Loved, remembered, treasured,
Always in our memory

Longly remembered in our thoughts
everyday, and our memories are forever,
Mom and Dad

Special In Memoriams

Special In Memoriams



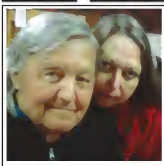
To my beloved parents
Marylou and Murray McGregor
This is my first Christmas without you both. I miss you and love you.
My thoughts are with you both at Christmas always.
Merry Christmas
Love your son Skip

Grammie and Bumpie McGregor
My first Christmas without you, I miss you both and love you both very much.
Merry Christmas,
Love your granddaughter Tista



Special In Memoriams

Special In Memoriams



In loving memory of my dear husband
Rick Aliman
What would I give to clasp his hand,
His happy face to see,
To hear his voice and see his smile,
That meant so much to me.
Missing you this Christmas and Always.
Love, Claudia



Rick Aliman
March 10, 1949 - August 12, 2012
God took away His garden
and found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He always takes the best.
Little did we know that morning
God called you home,
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.
We love you Dad
You will always be with us.
Nicole, Jessica and Dooley Aliman

Special In Memoriams

Special In Memoriams



STEVE ADAMEC
In loving memory of a dear
Husband, Father, Grandfather
and Great Grandfather at Christmas.
"Jules" was fun when you were here,
Full of laughter and cheer.
Now that you're gone we miss you so.
No laughter or grins on you to bestow.
Only a wish, a wish that's true,
Eternal peace, just for you.
We'll remember you more as the years go
by, And in our hearts you will never die.
Missing you, who Stella, children Pauline
(Tara), Jeanette (Bill) and Jim, Grand-
children Jennifer (Gabe), Kathleen, Michael
(Tania), Melissa (Sean), Stephanie (Jeff)
and Matthew, Great Grandchildren Noah,
Nicholas, Violet, Ella, Ryan, Layla, & Liam



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Funeral Services

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Special In Memoriams

Special In Memoriams

Frank & Flora Piorkowski
Julia Innes (Piorkowski)
In loving memory of my parents:
Frank (July 15, 2009)
And Flora (December 12, 1991)
And my sister, Julie (February 23, 2011)

Those we love remain with us
For love itself lives on,
And cherished memories never fade
Because a loved one is gone.
Those we love can never be
More than a thought apart,
For as long as there is memory,
They will live on in the heart.
Remembered with love,
Cathy, Oscar and Jennifer Ellinger.



Reflection
The Holidays add each of us
to reflect on the importance of
friends and family.
To the many within our
community that with funeral services,
we sincerely thank you.
To everyone who has
experienced a loss, it is
our hope that during
this holiday season you will
find hope and strength.
Respectfully,
Darren Flagg
1105 Benner Rd., Fort Erie
(905) 871-6444
www.bennerfuneralservices.com

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